

Put Your Own First Aid Kit Together – by Lesa O’Hair

First Aid Kit: (I use a bright red plastic tote that has First Aid Kit marked on it so I can see it and get it fast)

- Vet List printed out from OETRA Web site
- Horse Thermometer
- Stethoscope to listen for bowel sounds and to assess your horse's heart rate and breath sounds (know your horse's normal pulse, respiration and bowel sounds so you can know if something is wrong or different)
- Several rolls of Vet wrap
- Bandages large and small (Believe it or not women's feminine pads make great bandages for horses and are cheaper than what you would have to buy in a Vet Supply place)
- Banamine paste or injectable Banamine in case of colic (Newbies use the paste, it is safer for you to give) Rx - Need to get from vet.
- At least two tubes of paste Electrolytes to give in an emergency if your horse should need them. Make sure your horse is drinking plenty of water as giving these when the horse is not drinking could worsen the problem of dehydration. It is safest to give powdered electrolytes that you add to the feed as the horse will use only what he needs. Get him used to them before taking him on a camp out in hot weather so that he will lick them up.
- Bute Paste is also a good tool to have, especially if you have an older horse with some arthritis pain and soreness (Rx - need to get from Vet)
- Betadine to cleanse a wound with or Hydrogen Peroxide to use just for cleaning the wound. These are not for long term use on a wound as they are too caustic. They are good for cleaning purposes.
- Furacin is easy to administer for most cuts and has an antibiotic effect and is soothing to the wound. This also helps keep the wound moist and soft to help it heal. This is the yellow gooey stuff all Vet Supply places carry with no need for an RX from a Vet as it is over the counter and is great stuff and is safe!
- Syringes large and small to help flush and clean wounds and smaller ones to inject Banamine.
- Flashlights and batteries in case the emergency is in the dark!
- a few clean rags for multiple uses
- Bandage scissors